

## **OLENE SMITH WALKER**

- i LIVING**
- i Utah's first Lieutenant Governor**
- i Vice-President of a family-owned business**

Lt. Governor Olene Smith Walker grew up in Weber County, the daughter of T.O. and Nina Smith. Her parents were always involved in community service. In addition to being an outstanding teacher, Olene's mother raised a very large garden to feed the family, her friends and her neighbors. Her father served for more than twenty years as a church leader and as Superintendent of Ogden City Schools. Olene carries on her family's legacy by serving the state of Utah with dignity and competence.

Olene is the mother of seven children. She served for many years as Vice-President of a family business, Country Crisp Foods. She led the state PTA and was elected to the Utah Legislature where she was in leadership roles for several terms. She has been very influential in making Utah a great place to live.

In 1992, Olene was elected as Utah's first woman Lieutenant Governor. She believes Utah women are creative, hardworking and family-oriented. They "use great ingenuity to balance all of their roles and still give community service." Olene is often called upon to advise on national and international issues. She has been especially involved in monitoring elections in other countries to ensure fairness. She has served as Chair of the National Association of Lieutenant Governors as well as chair of the National Association of Secretaries of State. She was the first Lieutenant Governor to hold that position.

Olene appreciates the great flexibility she has to speak out about changes that are needed in her community and in her state. In the Legislature, she was given important roles because fellow legislators recognized a need for diversity. She was assigned to task forces and committees where she brought a new viewpoint to discussions. She has been treated with the same respect she strives to show. She states, "I've been co-equal on every policy body that I've served in."

Olene Smith Walker exemplifies the gracious, confident, capable women of Utah.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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